



Administrative Policies and Procedures: 21.1

Subject:	Minimum Rules and Regulations for Approval of Schools
Authority:	TCA 37-5-105, 37-5-106
Standards:	ACA: 3-JTS-5D-03, 3-JTS-5D-11, 3-JTS-5D-18-1; DCS Practice Standard: 6-407, 6-410, 8-306
Application:	To All Department of Children's Services Employees

Policy Statement:

The schools in the Department of Children's Services are considered to be a Tennessee public school system and therefore shall fulfill the requirements for school approval in accordance with the procedures established by the Tennessee State Board of Education.

Purpose:

To ensure that DCS approved schools operate in accordance with the Tennessee State Board of Education to provide youth with an educational program that is most suited to their needs and abilities, receive academic credit for education that can be transferred to schools in the community, and are awarded diplomas as applicable.

Procedures:

A. Rules, Regulations and Minimum Standards for the Governance of Tennessee Schools	<p>Each DCS school principal must maintain a current copy of the Tennessee Board of Education <u>Rules, Regulations and Minimum Standards for the Governance of Tennessee Schools</u>.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The principal must use the <i>Rules, Regulations and Minimum Standards for the Governance of Tennessee Schools</i> as a guide for school operation.2. The <i>Rules, Regulations and Minimum Standards for the Governance of Tennessee Schools</i> must be used as a reference for planning and implementing educational programs.
B. Reports required for approval	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Reports for the DCS Director of Education All requests and reports required by the <i>Rules, Regulations and Minimum Standards for the Governance of Tennessee Schools</i> for the approval process must be sent to the DCS Director of Education.

	2. Reports for the Department of Education The DCS Director of Education must submit the required reports to the Department of Education.
C. Availability of classes	Comprehensive education programs must be: 1. Made available to all eligible students; and 2. Scheduled at a time when the majority of youth can take advantage of the programs.
D. Recognition	Educational programs must provide on-going recognition for educational participation and must give formal recognition of specific educational achievements.

Forms:	<i>None</i>
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Collateral documents:	<i>Rules, Regulations and Minimum Standards for the Governance of Tennessee Public Schools; (www.state.tn.us/sos/rules/0520/0520.htm)</i>
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Glossary:	
Term	Definition
Rules, Regulations and Minimum Standards:	A Department of Education document containing the rules, regulations, and minimum standards governing public education K-12 in the State of Tennessee as defined and published by the State Board of Education/State Board of Vocational Education. The Tennessee Board of Education is authorized by law to prescribe rules and regulations for the approval, classification and governance of all public schools (<i>TCA § 49-1-302</i>). The rules, regulations and minimum standards adopted by the board are intended to implement the law and to furnish a broad framework of policies within which local school systems operate.